

Woman gets prison time for biting Fredericksburg police officer

BY KEITH EPPS / THE FREE LANCE-STAR

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A woman who seriously injured a Fredericksburg police officer earlier this year by latching onto him with her teeth was ordered Wednesday to serve 2½ years in prison.

Shenita Michelle Brower, 36, was convicted of seven charges in Fredericksburg Circuit Court, including malicious wounding of a law-enforcement officer and three misdemeanor counts of assault.

As part of a plea agreement, Judge Gordon Willis sentenced her to 22 years with all but 2½ years suspended.

According to prosecutor Travis Bird, Officer Corey Dobson went to the Townsend Square Apartments off U.S. 1 late Jan. 19 in response to a dispute involving Brower and her male roommate, who wanted her out of the apartment.

Dobson was talking to the man when Brower got between them and pushed the officer, Bird said.

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She repeated that act two more times, yelling in the officer's face each time, before Dobson finally placed her under arrest.

While resisting Dobson's attempt to arrest her, Brower bit Dobson on the left hand and clamped down until he was finally able to get her off him. Officers who had come to assist Dobson heard him yelling in pain as they approached.

Dobson suffered a fractured wrist and needed six stitches as the result of the attack. He was out of work for several months.

Brower, who was represented by attorney Allen Bareford, was also convicted of obstruction of justice, resisting arrest and failure to appear in court.

She entered Alford pleas to all of the charges, meaning that while she didn't admit guilt, she acknowledged the evidence was sufficient for convictions.

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